

FACULTY SENATE MEETING

April 24, 2012

1. Call to Order.

CHAIR SANDRA KELLY (Psychology) called the meeting to order, and welcomed Faculty Senators, University officers, and guests.

2. Corrections and Approval of Minutes.

CHAIR KELLY asked for corrections to the minutes of the meeting of March 14, 2012. There were no corrections and the minutes were approved as written.

3. Reports of Committees

a. Senate Steering Committee, Professor Rebekah Maxwell, Secretary

PROFESSOR MAXWELL (Law Library), on behalf of the Steering Committee, brought forward the nomination of Professor James Knapp (Earth and Ocean Sciences) as Chair-Elect of the Faculty Senate (please see qualifications, attachment, page 14). Although Steering received but the one nomination, the Faculty Manual requires a paper ballot election, so ballots were distributed for later collection.

Professor Maxwell brought forward the nomination of Professor Jennifer Vendemia (Psychology) to fill a vacancy on the Faculty Advisory Committee. She left the floor open for further nominations.

b. Committee on Curricula and Courses, Professor Peter Binev, Chair

PROFESSOR BINEV (Mathematics) noted that a correction should be made on page 15 of the proposed course changes: regarding AERO 201L, the line that reads “permission of instructor” should be struck from the content.

He then reported changes for the College of Arts and Sciences, the Moore School of Business, the College of Education, the School of Music, the Arnold School of Public Health, and System Affairs and Extended University (please see attachment, pages 15 - 40).

The changes were adopted.

4. Reports of Officers

PRESIDENT HARRIS PASTIDES greeted his faculty colleagues and observed that he was soon to attend the first of 14 commencements and hooding ceremonies during the University's graduation season. He expected to shake hands with 5,551 graduates during the course of these ceremonies, beginning in Beaufort. He encouraged Senators and faculty to participate in the graduations.

President Pastides reported that the University that evening would be hosting a barbeque on the Horseshoe for the members of the General Assembly, the constitutional officers of the State, and the members of the Governor's Cabinet. The event is intended to showcase the University and to raise awareness for our government officials of how much dedicated work the University is doing with greatly-diminished appropriations. In three years, the University's state appropriations have fallen from about 25% to below 10%, in the range of 8.5 – 9.2%. The President noted that, although the economy appears to be recovering somewhat from the recession, there is likely to be no return to prior funding levels from our state government.

President Pastides noted that institutions of higher education were simultaneously losing state support and receiving increased pressure to keep tuition in check. We have increased the size of our student body in Columbia dramatically over the past several years for two reasons. The first reason is that we are a tuition-dependent university. Education is our product, our deliverable, and our best interests are served by reaching more customers. But the more important reason is that we need more education in South Carolina and in the nation. For about 150 years, the United States was the number one nation in the world regarding the percentage of the population with a college degree. Then the US was eclipsed by Canada, and in the last 15 years, we have fallen to 12th on the list.

Tuition at our University, in round numbers, is about \$10,000/year for in-state students and \$25,000/year for out-of-state students. Out-of-state students pay approximately 2.5 times the tuition of an in-state student, before any discounting is applied. Nearly 100% of the in-state students in the freshman class at the Columbia campus receive one of the lottery-funded scholarships, making their net average cost of tuition closer to \$4,000. While we cannot turn away in-state students in order to generate greater tuition revenues from out-of-state students, our number of out-of-state applicants was higher this year than ever before. This is not a universal phenomenon at colleges around the country; out-of-state applications tend to increase for colleges which are viewed, as Kiplinger's Magazine has called it, as "best value" schools. USC is frequently rated as a best value university.

We need to be very, very sensitive to how much we can raise tuition this year. At the barbeque, the University's administrators will remind the General Assembly that so much of the Palmetto State's fate and fortunes derive from our University and from other colleges, and will ask for

their greater support. The General Assembly approved \$5 million this year for USC's Palmetto College, an online baccalaureate completion program to be delivered mainly to South Carolinians who have completed part of their college degree and have become place-bound and unable to come to Columbia to complete the degree. Without a program like the Palmetto College, these students would have nowhere to turn but to for-profit universities, and our University can offer high-quality, lower-cost baccalaureate completion. We hope that the General Assembly will make this support on-going. The General Assembly also approved \$10 million for the construction of a new Law School building.

President Pastides noted that we have had some wonderful news in terms of awards that have been conferred both on our students and members of the faculty. We have had three Goldwater awards among the student body. These are among the most prestigious awards in the United States, and we have three out of only 282 awarded in the nation. Goldwater recipients are Cole Franks, Daniel Grier, and Gerry Koons. The Goldwaters are for students enrolled in the STEM disciplines who have a bright future working toward a Ph.D.

We had four USC professors who were noted by Princeton Review as being among the top 300 professors of the year. These awards are based on student evaluation and input rather than peer review. Those professors are Brad Collins (Art History), Tom Hughes and Mariah Lynch (Business), and Mark Sibley-Jones, who teaches English in the Honors College.

The President was particularly pleased that this year we had a faculty colleague win a Guggenheim fellowship, one of the most prestigious scholarly award that can be given in the United States. Professor Fang Man, an Assistant Professor of Music, has been called "inventive and breathtaking" by Steven Smith, music reviewer the New York Times. Her original music has been performed by the LA Philharmonic, the Tokyo Philharmonic and many, many others. We are very, very proud of Professor Fang Man for winning a Guggenheim.

President Pastides was also extremely proud to report that the South Carolina Honors College has been ranked as the top Honors College in the United States among public universities. The President was especially gratified that the honors college concept is one that the University was early to embrace, having established our Honors College several decades ago as a special experience within a large public university. We arguably helped refine the concept, and the President congratulated Dean Lynn and the faculty of the Honors College on this achievement.

The President reported that the state will likely mandate a 2% pay raise for faculty and staff. The state will not be providing the funding for the entire raise, just for the percentage of our state appropriations, so the University (and other state institutions) will have to make up the difference from other funding sources. President Pastides noted that, while results are not guaranteed, he, the Provost, and Chair Kelly will advocate with the Board of Trustees for an additional 1%, bringing the goal to a 3% raise. The University's administration team is working with the

Faculty Welfare Committee and the Faculty Budget Committee on ideas for distributing the raise pool if we are successful.

President Pastides closed his report with comments regarding the many beautiful and creative programs he'd seed in the last several weeks: ballets, three Shakespeare plays by the drama department, and phenomenal musical productions, including one remembering the Holocaust.

PROVOST MICHAEL AMIRIDIS opened his report with a suggestion that perhaps our administrators, faculty, and Senators could more efficiently manage time devoted to meetings by combining the General Faculty and Faculty Senate meetings in April and September. He plans to work with the Faculty Senate Steering Committee to see if the two meetings can be consolidated.

The Provost reported that a memo has gone out to the University's Deans and Chancellors that describes the Palmetto College initiative. The memo is a three-page summary of what Palmetto College is: who the students will be, who will teach, where the degrees will come from, how it will be funded, how it will be administered and staffed. The initiative is a work in progress, and the Provost invites faculty and Senators to direct any concerns and questions to him or to Vice Provost Lacy Ford.

Provost Amiridis provided an update regarding the Dean search at the College of Nursing. Four very strong candidates have been identified and they are going to be interviewing on campus between May 1 and 29. The Provost encouraged feedback from faculty and administrators who interact with these candidates.

Provost Amiridis noted that he had announced the winners of this year's University Faculty Awards during the General Faculty meeting, and congratulated the winners again. This year's winners are:

John Gardner Inspirational Faculty Member Award

Leslie Hendrix

College of Arts and Sciences

Department of Statistics

Outstanding Undergraduate Research Mentor Award

Norma Frizzell

School of Medicine

Department of Pharmacology, Physiology and Neuroscience

Xinyu Huang

College of Engineering and Computing

Department of Mechanical Engineering

Ada B. Thomas Outstanding Faculty Advisor
Wayne Outten
College of Arts and Sciences
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

Russell Research Award for Humanities and Social Sciences

Geoff Alpert
College of Arts and Sciences
Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice

Russell Research Award for Science, Mathematics and Engineering

Kenneth Reifsnider
College of Engineering and Computing
Department of Mechanical Engineering

USC Educational Foundation Research Award for Health Sciences

James Fadel
School of Medicine
Department of Pharmacology, Physiology and Neuroscience

USC Educational Foundation Research Award for Humanities and Social Sciences

Patricia Sullivan
College of Arts and Sciences
Department of History

USC Educational Foundation Research Award for Science, Mathematics and Engineering

James Ritter
College of Engineering and Computing
Department of Chemical Engineering

USC Educational Foundation Research Award for Professional Schools

Robert E. Ployhart
Moore School of Business
Department of Management

USC Educational Foundation Outstanding Service Award

John H. Dawson
College of Arts and Sciences

Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

Carolina Trustee Professorships

James Hebert

Arnold School of Public Health

Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Hans-Conrad zur Loye

College of Arts and Sciences

Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

Juanita Villena-Alvarez

USC Beaufort

Humanities and Fine Arts

John J. Duffy Excellence in Teaching Award (2011)

Leandro Junes

USC Sumter

Division of Science, Mathematics and Engineering

Clinical Practice Teaching Award

Brandon Bookstaver

South Carolina College of Pharmacy

Department of Clinical Pharmacy and Outcomes Sciences

Charles J. Carter

School of Medicine

Department of Family and Preventive Medicine

Michael J. Mungo Undergraduate Teaching Award

Northrop Davis

College of Arts and Sciences

Department of Art

John L. Ferry

College of Arts and Sciences

Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

Anthony Jarrells

College of Arts and Sciences

Department of English

Joseph Quattro

College of Arts and Sciences

Department of Biological Sciences

Michael J. Mungo Graduate Teaching Award

Milind V. Purohit

College of Arts and Sciences

Department of Physics and Astronomy

Michael J. Mungo Distinguished Professor of the Year Award

Milind Kunchur

College of Arts and Sciences

Department of Physics and Astronomy

VICE PRESIDENT PRAKASH NAGARKATTI (Research) provided an overview of the recent activities of the Office of Research. The Office of Research has launched an ambitious agenda to increase research funding to about \$300 million and make our University one of the top 50 public universities.

To better understand how research support operates at other universities, the Office of Research has been gathering statistical information. Here are some of the highlights:

- 70% of research at both public and private universities is funded by the federal government.
- 10% is sponsored by state/local governments and industry.
- The federal government spends about \$32.5 billion on research funding for universities.
- Of that \$32.5 billion, almost \$20 billion is allocated toward supporting life sciences, with the remainder going to other areas.
- NIH provides almost \$20 billion to support university research.
- NSF provides about \$3.9 billion, and when combined with other agencies, it adds up to about \$10 billion.
- Research funding has remained at about 0.4% of the GDP for the last 20 or 25 years.

How can USC compete with other universities for federal research funding? Dr. Nagarkatti outlined a strategy to help us focus our efforts.

1. Innovate, integrate, and pursue interdisciplinary research.

We have major strengths in life sciences and health sciences across at least six different colleges from Medicine, Public Health, Pharmacy, Nursing, Arts & Sciences, and Social Work. If we can integrate these strengths with other colleges and units, then we will be able to successfully compete. Dr. Nagarkatti used as an example the Medical School's center for inflammation, which was successfully funded on the strength of its interdisciplinary approach.

2. To be successful nationally, we need to focus on a problem or opportunity that is unique to a region.

Focal points in South Carolina could include the fact that our state is in a stroke belt, or that we have health disparities, or that we have major obesity problems. Other examples include nuclear energy or coastal environment. Dr. Nagarkatti stated that such a concept can be applied to any area including those in Arts and Humanities such as for example, in music. We could address such issues such as obesity for example by looking at health factors, environmental factors, genetic factors, and psychological factors. We could integrate other disciplines and colleges, such as Education for health literacy education, or Social Work or Business.

Dr. Nagarkatti outlined several initiatives that the Office of Research is developing to take advantage of the fact that we are a comprehensive university.

The ASPIRE program has received enthusiastic response. The Office of Research received almost 200 applications and spent about \$2.5 million this year funding almost 30 – 35% of applications received to promote interdisciplinary research across multiple colleges and units.

We are trying to develop undergraduate and graduate programs and have initiated a number of initiatives like starting online journals, and trying to promote NSF funded research experience for undergraduates. We are collaborating with several historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) and this summer we are bringing a large number of minority students to work with our faculty. We are going to incentivize the faculty by trying to provide \$2,000 to help them in terms of their salary support, as well as money needed for supplies. We are trying to promote the diversity in research. We are trying to develop an effective mentoring plan. Dr. Nagarkatti is going to various departments and giving talks about how to help junior faculty get mentoring from senior faculty. We are trying to develop that at the college level as well as at the university level, including the development of a research mentoring institute, the details of which will follow

We had a research retreat to discuss all such initiatives including the topic on how to incentivize faculty for their outstanding research and scholarly activities. That is something that we will try to focus on at the university level. We want to promote faculty entrepreneurship and help the faculty submit SBIR and STTR grants. Representatives from the Office of Technology Commercialization will visit every department to talk to the faculty about these SBIR and STTR initiatives.

Another initiative will focus on improving media relations and development activities. We will increase efforts to promote in regional newspapers, national papers and other media outlets the exciting research that is going on here at USC.

We are trying to establish a database of all global research activities. We want to promote global research in terms of applying for major source of funding from USAID, the World Bank, the Gates Foundation, and similar entities.

Lastly, the Office of Research is working to develop the infrastructure by providing the faculty with some of the cutting edge facilities that are necessary to carry out state of the art research. Again, the ASPIRE III grant which gives almost \$100,000 was aimed at trying to improve the infrastructure.

Vice President Nagarkatti opened the floor for questions.

5. Report of the Secretary

There was no report.

6. Report of the Chair

CHAIR KELLY asked Senators to pass their ballot forms to the ends of the aisles for collection, then thanked them for their attendance.

She then thanked the members of the Committee on Curricula and Courses for the tremendous amount of work they do to streamline the course and change approval process. Chair Kelly noted that Professor Peter Binev (Mathematics) is rotating off as Chair and that Brian Habing (Statistics) is coming on as Chair, and thanked them both for their commitment to a big job.

Chair Kelly re-stated her commitment to advocating for a raise for USC faculty and staff, noting that the support of the Faculty Senate helps give the initiative some weight.

Chair Kelly encouraged Senators and faculty to review the proposed changes to the Faculty Manual (available at http://www.sc.edu/faculty/manualchange_pro.shtml). The changes for the most part regard tenure and promotion guidelines with respect to the contribution of the secondary unit. She noted that the site includes a link to submit comments, and encouraged Senators to take advantage of the opportunity to send feedback.

Chair Kelly noted that she agrees with the Provost's suggestion to consolidate the General and the Faculty Senate meetings in April and September. She updated the Senators on an upcoming initiative that will distribute the meeting agenda packets electronically. This change will begin in the fall when documentation for the meetings will be sent by email and posted online at the Faculty Senate's webpage (<http://www.sc.edu/faculty/index.shtml>). She noted that she had received input from two different faculty members the week of Earth Day noting the deluge of discarded agendas and minutes in garbage cans throughout the University, highlighting the need for this procedural change.

Chair Kelly has been working with the Board of Trustees and hopes to have a visitor from the Board to address the Senate in the fall. Chair Kelly is hoping to make a short presentation to the Board to orient them on the level of activity and the duties performed by the USC faculty.

The Faculty Welfare Committee has begun work on the idea of a Faculty Code of Conduct. Chair Kelly observed that when University Ombudsman, Dr. Jim Augustine, presented to the Senate last fall, he spoke of the cost of faculty bullying at the University. While no one at the University wishes to tread on the academic freedom of others, many universities are starting to develop policies that encourage civil relations between faculty members. Chair Kelly hopes that such a document or policy would be the source of engaged debate in the Senate.

7. Unfinished Business

CHAIR KELLY announced that the ballots had been counted and that Professor Jim Knapp had been elected Chair-Elect of the Faculty Senate, with fifty-four votes and one abstention.

PROFESSOR REBEKAH MAXWELL invited nominations from the floor for the vacancy on the Faculty Advisory Committee. There were none, and Professor Jennifer Vendemia was elected.

8. New Business

There was no new business.

9. Good of the Order

STUDENTS HAZEL BRIDGES, a Student Government Senator and Chairman of Academics, and MILLER HANE, Secretary of Academics for Student Government, introduced themselves and a new SGA initiative to foster improvement in relationships between students and faculty at USC. They offered themselves as liaisons with Student Government and to invite ideas and faculty input. Chair Kelly invited the students to attend all Senate meetings and to bring forward any issues of concern.

PROFESSOR CHRISTIAN ANDERSON (Education) announced an initiative in the Education Department to memorialize Richard T. Greener, who was the first African American Professor here at the University of South Carolina. His appointment began in 1873 and he left when the University was closed in 1877. He served as librarian, as a professor and also earned a law degree from the Law School.

The Education Department held an Ideas Competition and will be awarding three prizes tomorrow morning at the Museum of Education at 10 am to those recipients, two students and one faculty member. The purpose of the Ideas Competition was to generate ideas for how to memorialize Professor Greener, so the next stage will be to incorporate those ideas and to present the ideas to President Pastides.

Documents related to Professor Greener were found in Chicago just a couple months ago. Bobby Donaldson and Elizabeth West from USC traveled up there to exam the documents – his Harvard diploma, his Law certificate, his Law license from South Carolina, and his Law diploma from the University of South Carolina were among those documents.

Professor Anderson invited Senators to visit <http://www.sc.edu/greener> for more information.

10. Announcements

The next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be on Wednesday, June 13, at 3:00 p.m., in the Law School auditorium. Chair Kelly noted that, in keeping with the tradition established for the summer meeting by Patrick Nolan when he was Chair, Senators are encouraged to wear their Hawaiian shirts and other resort wear.

11. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was seconded and passed.